

Applicants: Robert H. DeBellis et al.
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In the claims:

Please replace the claims with the listing of claims below.

1. (currently amended) A method of treating a subject afflicted with sickle cell disease which comprises administering to the subject an amount of an antiviral agent, wherein the antiviral agent is a ~~purine analog~~, valacyclovir, pencyclovir, or famcyclovir, ~~ribavirin~~, ~~lamivudine~~, ~~amantadine~~, ~~or rimantadine~~, effective to inhibit sickling of a cell in the subject, so as to thereby treat the subject.
2. - 9. (cancelled)
10. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the cell is an erythrocyte cell.
11. - 16. (cancelled)
17. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the sickle cell disease is selected from the group consisting of sickle cell anemia, sickle β -thalassemia, sickle cell-hemoglobin C disease and any other sickle hemoglobinopathy in which hemoglobin S interacts with a hemoglobin other than hemoglobin S.
18. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is a mouse, rat, dog, guinea pig, ferret, rabbit, primate, or human being.

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19. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the antiviral agent is administered to a subject via intralesional, intramuscular, subcutaneous, intravenous, intraperitoneal, liposome mediated, transmucosal, intestinal, topical, nasal, oral, anal, ocular or otic delivery.